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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/706,729	BAUMANN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Matthew O. Savage	1724	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--*

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 2-14-05.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 26-30, and 36-39, renumbered 1-9, respectively.
3.  The drawings filed on 12 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 11-12-03, 2-14-05
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

Matthew O Savage  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1724

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Frederick J. Dorchak on 4-22-05.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A ring shaped filter insert for a liquid filter having a filter housing for receiving the insert, the insert comprising:

a pin that projects eccentrically and runs parallel to a longitudinal axis of the filter insert and is integrally molded on a lower end disk of the filter insert, said pin being provided with a chamfer formed at an axially free end of said pin, and

a projection extending axially away from the free end of the pin and being formed on [[an]] the axially free end of the pin facing a ramp of a receiving area of the filter housing when the insert is inserted into the filter housing, said projection forming a contact zone of the pin.

Claim 30 (currently amended): The insert according to claim 26 wherein the pin is mounted on the lower end disk in a radially flexible manner via a spring elastic web.

Claims 31-35 have been canceled.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The insert according to claim 26 further comprising an upper end disk having a central orifice on whose edge are arranged a gasket and a ring-shaped collar, and a retaining means formed on the upper end disk for mounting the insert on a cover of the filter housing for rotational movement of the insert about its longitudinal axis and for securing the insert axially on the cover.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The insert according to claim 38 wherein the retaining means is [[integral]] designed in one piece with the upper end disk.

The first paragraph of page 1 of the specification has been amended as follows:  
-- This application is a divisional of parent application serial No. 10/111,473 filed on April 23, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,706,181, which claims the benefit as a National Stage entry of a PCT application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 371, of International Application No. PCT/DE00/03509 filed September 30, 2000, published in the German language, which in turn claims priority, in its parent case, of German Application No. 199 51 085.7 filed October 23, 1999. --.

On line 27 of page 7 of the specification, --or retaining means-- has been inserted after "shoulder".

On line 33 of page 10 of the specification, "fo" has been changed to --of--.

On line 15 of page 12 of the specification, --in a radially flexible manner as shown in FIG.5-- has been inserted after "elastic web 34".

On line 23 of page 15 of the specification, --form a retaining means and-- has been inserted after " 8' ".

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: DE 3,903,675 is considered the closest prior art, however, the reference fails to teach or suggest the instantly claimed relation of a chamfer being formed at an axially free end of the pin, and a projection extending axially away from the free end of the pin and being formed on the axially free end of the pin as recited in instant claim 26.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew O. Savage whose telephone number is (571) 272-1146. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*M. Savage*  
Matthew O Savage  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1724

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April 22, 2005